

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Patrick Butler
Art Unit : 1732
Applicant : Albert E. Ortega
Serial No. : 10/662,492
Conf. No. : 9209
Filed : September 15, 2003
For : Method of Reducing Static in a Spunbond Process

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF DR. BILLIE COLLIER UNDER 37 CFR §1.132

Sir:

I, Dr. Billie Collier, hereby declare:

THAT, I am Dean of the College of Human Sciences, and Professor of Textiles and Consumer Sciences, at Florida State University;

THAT, I previously held the position of Director of the Textiles and Nonwovens Development Center (TANDEC) at the University of Tennessee from 2002-2005;

THAT, I am a co-author, along with Phyllis Tortora, of the book "Understanding Textiles," Fifth Edition (Prentice-Hall, 1997);

And being thus duly qualified, do further declare as follows:

1. In the fifth edition of "Understanding Textiles," at page 330, the Spunbonding section states: "Spunbonded fabrics are manufactured from synthetic filament fibers. Continuous filaments are formed by extrusion through spinnerets, and the filaments are blown onto a moving belt where they form a web. As the still hot and partially molten filaments touch, they bond." However, this description of the spunbonding process is not complete.

2. In the seventh edition of "Understanding Textiles, published in 2009, the section on nonwovens has been revised. The description of the spunbonding process has been expanded upon since the fifth edition. In the seventh edition, the description of spunbonding (pp. 349-350) reads:

"Spunbonded fabrics are manufactured from synthetic filament fibers. The polymer is melted in an extruder, and the melt is pumped through a rectangular spinneret with thousands of holes, called a die. Upon exiting the die, the fibers enter a chimney where turbulent air cools and entangles the filaments, which are then deposited in a random pattern on a moving belt... To complete the operation, the spun-laid web is passed through heated rolls to bond the fibers, giving the fabric more integrity."

I hereby further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

By: Billie Collier

Billie Collier

Date: 11-5-09